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**GO SERV “SPOTLIGHT”  
HONORS BAY AREA TEACHER**

*Inspired Teacher Follows in Mentor’s Footsteps*

**SACRAMENTO** - The Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) is featuring Priti Johari, a Teach for America member serving in San Jose. Teach for America is a national organization of recent college graduates who commit two years to teach in urban and rural schools.

“Priti has committed to her students and they in turn have committed to her,” Executive Director of GO SERV, Chuck Supple said. “What Priti brings to the classroom in her fresh and innovative teaching methods is what students respond to, and we applaud her creativity and ability to make complex issues simple and fun.”

In teaching the Canterbury Tales, Priti had her students dress the part and stage a feast, preparing medieval dishes such as quail and custard. She has also staged mock trials in which students role-played characters from a book they were reading.

Priti first became aware of the Teach for America program when she was a sophomore at Andrew Hill High School in San Jose. One of her teachers, Ben Costano, was a graduate of the Teach for America program, and over the years, Ben became a mentor to Priti. After Priti graduated from Andrew Hill, she enrolled at the University of Chicago. While there, Priti still turned to Ben for advice about class work. Seeing Ben’s dedication inspired Priti to enroll in Teach for America, and she began teaching at her old high school, Andrew Hill, this past fall.

The GO SERV *Spotlight* is a weekly recognition program, honoring community service organizations or individuals involved in community service. To view the full *Spotlight* story, please visit the GO SERV Web site at [www.goserv.ca.gov](http://www.goserv.ca.gov). *Spotlight* nomination forms, as well as other volunteer opportunities, are also available on GO SERV’s website.

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